

Blues' first session

ROTHMANS Isthmian League champions Wycombe Wanderers held their first training session of the close season on Monday at Bisham Abbey. Owing to holidays and other commitments, several of the regular faces were missing but among those who did attend the session were Keith Searle, Keith Mead, Dave Bullock, Steve Perrin, Graham Mackenzie and Paul Birdseye.

Johnny Hutchinson, who left the club last season to join Hayes and Ray Eaton, last year's England Amateur full-back who went on tour with Wycombe to Cyprus, were also there.

Wanderers are now training three times a week at Bisham under the direction of assistant manager John Reardon.

The news came through this week that Wanderers will have to go through the qualifying rounds of the F.A. Cup as they did not submit a special application for exemption from the qualifying rounds. They start this year's campaign with a visit to the winners of the Marlow v Aylesbury United preliminary round tie. If they are successful in that game, they go on to meet the winners of the Wolverton v Milton Keynes tie at home.

In the third qualifying round they will be away to one of the following: Chesham United, Vauxhall Motors, Oxford City and Witney Town. The latter, who play in the Southern League Division One, must be considered as the biggest threat to the Blues in the section.

In the F.A. Challenge Trophy, Wanderers have been exempted until the third qualifying round along with such clubs as Avelley, Barnet, Bishop's Stortford, Blyth Spartans, Dulwich Hamlet, Hendon, Highgate United, Ilford, Leatherhead, Slough, Spennymoor, Sutton, Walton and Hersham and Woking.



Some of the players at Wycombe Wanderers' first training session of the season at Bisham Abbey on Monday.



Johnny Hutchinson closes in tackle Graham Mackenzie in Monday's training session at Bisham.